

## Message Text

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47

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 IO-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01

INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 AID-05 MC-01 SCCT-01 /080 W

----- 022108

R 141040Z JAN 75

FM AMCONSUL BUKAVU

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 315

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA

DAR ES SALAAM 053

AMEMBASSY KIGALI

AMCONSUL LUBUMBASHI

C O N F I D E N T I A L BUKAVU 04

E.O. 11652:

TAGS: PINS, CG

SUBJECT: CALMER SITUATION IN KIVU

REF: (A) BUKAVU 116 OF DECEMBER 26

(B) BUKAVU 109 OF DECEMBER 4

1. PERIOD OF TIME SINCE REFTEL (A) SENT HAS NOT SEEN INCREASED  
REBEL ACTIVITY EARLIER FEARED LIKELY.

2. I SPOKE ON JANUARY 10 WITH COBELMINE OFFICIAL WHO REPORTED  
NO UNUSUAL INCIDENTS IN THE AREAS OF THEIR MINES CENTERING AROUND  
KAMITUGA IN PAST THREE WEEKS. NO COBELMINE EMPLOYEE HAS YET RE-  
PORTED SIGHTING MISSING NORWEGIAN MISSION PLANE.

3. ON DEC. 29, COMMISSAIRE DE REGION CALLED THE VICE CONSUL TO  
INFORM THAT TWO BRITISH SUBJECTS, MESSRS. WILSON AND TOLSON,  
VISITING AN AMERICAN MISSIONARY AT KALEHE HAD BEEN ARRESTED AND  
HAD SMALL PLANE IMPOUNDED UPON LANDING AT GRASS STRIP THERE.  
PAIR RELEASED DEC. 30 AFTER GOMA AIRPORT CONFIRMED THAT THEY HAD  
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INDEED FILED FLIGHT PLAN WITH KALEHE AS STOP.

4. STORY DOES SUGGEST, HOWEVER THAT REGIONAL AUTHORITIES ARE STILL JUMPY OVER REBELS AND THE POSSIBILITY THAT THEY MAY HAVE AN AIR-PLANE; THIS CONCERN IS ESPECIALLY APPARENT FROM UNUSUAL PRESENCE OF TROOPS AT A LITTLE-USED, GRASS LANDING STRIP. TROOPS TOLD WILSON AND TOLSON "YOU ARE VERY LUCKY. WE HAD ORDERS TO FIRE ON ANY UNKNOWN PLANE TRYING TO LAND."

5. IN ABSENCE OF SPECIFIC REPORTS WHICH CAN BE CHECKED OUT, I HAVE NOT SOUGHT INTERVIEWS WITH REGIONAL MILITARY OR CND OFFICIALS SINCE THEY CUSTOMARILY LIMIT THEMSELVES TO CONFIRMING OR DENYING SPECIFIC REPORTS. WILL ENDEAVOR TO CHECK ANY FURTHER HAD REPORTS WITH THEM AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

6. SPIRIT OF TENSION AMONG EXPATRIATE COMMUNITY HERE AT YEAR'S END HAS EASED SOMEWHAT BUT MOST FOREIGNERS ARE STILL UNEASY AND MORE INCLINED THAN EVER TO LISTEN THE LATEST CROP OF BUKAVU'S ALWAYS ABUNDANT RUMORS.

7. MANAGERS OF INDIVIDUAL THARMAKINA PLANTATIONS STILL RESIDENT ON PLANTATIONS. HOWEVER, PAYROLL FOR WORKERS NOW CARRIED AT IRREGULAR INTERVALS BY TWO EMPLOYEES WITH ARMED ESCORT. PHARMAKINA ALSO BEGINNING TO RECRUIT ITS OWN GUARD FORCE PARTLY FROM AMONG RETIRED POLICE AND MILITARY TO PROTECT PLANTATIONS AND STOP INCREASING THEFTS OF QUININE BARK AND ROOTS FROM LIVE TREES. PHARMAKINA MANAGER SCHEIDER CONTINUING EFFORTS TO RENT HOUSES IN BUKAVU TO RESETTLE EXPATRIATE MANAGERS IN TOWN.

8. COBELMINE CONTINUES TO EVACUATE GOLD FROM LUGUSHWA (REFTEL B) BY PLANE. MILITARY AND/OR GENDARME REINFORCEMENTS PROMISED FOR LUGUSHWA HAVE NEVER MATERIALIZED AND GENDARMES AT NEARBY KITUTU NOW BACK DOWN TO PREATTACK LEVEL.

9. COMMENT: REGIONAL AUTHORITIES WOULD PROBABLY RESPOND TO AN INQUIRY NOW ABOUT PUBLIC ORDER IN KIVU BY SAYING "CALM EVERYWHERE; ORDER REIGNS." FOR THE MOMENT. THIS SEEMS TO BE TRUE BUT IT IS AN UNEASY CALM AND ORDER COULD STILL QUICKLY BECOME MORE REVOLUTIONARY THAN ENVISAGED IN MPR SLOGANS.  
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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** POLITICAL SITUATION  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 14 JAN 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** GolinoFR  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Executive Order:** GS  
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**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION AF  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 75 BUKAVU 116, 75 OF DECEMBER 26  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** GolinoFR  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 16 APR 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <16 APR 2003 by MartinML>; APPROVED <17 APR 2003 by GolinoFR>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
05 JUL 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** CALMER SITUATION IN KIVU  
**TAGS:** PINS, CG  
**To:** STATE KINSHASA  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006